Application No.: 10/623,773

Amendment dated: December 23, 2004 Reply to Office Action of December 20, 2004

REMARKS

The Examiner has considered the amendment filed on December 9, 2004, to be non-compliant because it was not submitted in the format required under 37 CFR 1.121, as amended on June 30, 2004. Specifically, claim 14 was presented in the claim listing with the status identifier "New"; however, a portion of the text of the claim contained underlining.

Accordingly, Applicant resubmits herewith in its entirety the "Amendments to the Claims" section of the amendment filed December 9, 2004, in the format required under 37 CFR 1.121, i.e., new claim 14 does not contain underlining.

Respectfully submitted, BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

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Date: December 23, 2004

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